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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in

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Stephanie R. Mason

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masahiro KIHARA et al.

Serial No.:

10/058,100

Filing Date:

January 29, 2002

For:

DESALINATION METHOD AND DESALINATION APPARATUS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Examiner: K. S. Menon

Group Art Unit: 1723

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the RCE and in response to the Action of March 1, 2004, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.